GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2753
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2000
LIFE IN UNIVERSE
Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian scientists have decided to launch an unique project to probe extra-terrestrial life in the universe;

(b) if so, whether the Indian Space Research Organisation have started thisproject in collaboration with other institutes in the country and has decided to collect air samples from various altitudes in the atmosphere; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be completed and the findings thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SMT. VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) Yes, Sir. Indian scientists have launched a Project to probe
(i) the presence,

(ii) the nature and
(iii) the terrestrial or extra-terrestrial origin of micro-organisms in the earth`s atmosphere in the altitude belt of 20-40 kilometers.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The experimentation and analysis of results is likely to take about two years.